

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Production of Fluorine

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1. Production of hydrofluoric acid is now being prepared in the Mitas, Národní podnik chemical factory in Prague, to which Soviet experts were appointed in Jun 1953. Production is expected to remain in an experimental stage for some time, due to the shortage of skilled technicians.
2. Small quantities of fluorine compounds are being produced at Závody Juraje Dimitrova in Bratislava and in Považské chemické závody in Zilina in Slovakia. Production there is to be reorganized. It has been held up by the poor results of the collaboration of Soviet experts and a shortage of manpower.
3. Chemical industrial production in Czechoslovakia has a low priority and it is not expected that there will be any significant increase in the production of hydrofluoric acid and fluorine during 1954 and 1955.
4. The department of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Chemical Industry in charge of producing fluorine compounds is headed by Engineer Jaromir Vitasek. The director of the Mitas factory is Jan Kralina, and the chairman of the workers' committee there is Vladislav Krsek. Bonumil Chyle is in charge of recruiting manpower.
5. The shipments of fluorine compounds from the Bratislava and Zilina factories will be centralized at Komarom on the Czech-Slovak-Hungarian border.

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